

(b) When a carrier plans to cease using a facility as a solid waste rail transfer facility, or when a facility is transferred to any party in any manner other than that described in paragraph (a) of this section, the entity that received the land-use-exemption permit must notify the Board, the municipality, the State, and any relevant Federal or State regional planning entity of the jurisdiction in which the solid waste rail transfer facility is located, in writing no later than 60 days prior to the proposed cessation or transfer. Upon receipt of that notice, the Board will publish notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER that the land-use-exemption permit will be terminated on the 60th day unless otherwise ordered by the Board.

§ 1155.26 Board determinations under 49 U.S.C. 10909.

(a) *Schedule.* (1) The schedule in paragraph (a)(2) of this section shall govern the process for Board consideration and decisions in land-use-exemption-permit application proceedings from the time the application is filed until the time of the Board's decision on the merits.

(2) At least 45 days prior to filing of application—Environmental report (and/or historic report, if applicable) filed and environmental process initiated pursuant to 49 CFR 1155.24.

(i) Day 0—Application filed.

(ii) Day 20—Due date for Notice of Application to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(iii) Day 45—Due date for initial comments.

(iv) 30 days after the Final EIS (or other final environmental documentation) is issued by OEA—Due date for final comments.

(v) 45 days after the Final EIS (or other final environmental documentation) is issued by OEA—Due date for replies to final comments.

(3) A decision on the merits will be due 90 days after a full record is developed.

(b) *Standard for review.* (1) The Board will issue a land-use-exemption permit only if it determines that the facility at the existing or proposed location would not pose an unreasonable risk to public health, safety, or the environment. In deciding whether a solid

waste rail transfer facility that is or proposed to be constructed or operated by or on behalf of a rail carrier poses an unreasonable risk to public health, safety, or the environment, the Board shall weigh the particular facility's potential benefits to and the adverse impacts on public health, public safety, the environment, interstate commerce, and transportation of solid waste by rail.

(2) The Board will not grant a land-use-exemption permit for a solid waste rail transfer facility proposed to be located on land within any unit of or land affiliated with the National Park System, the National Wildlife Refuge System, the National Wilderness Preservation System, the National Trails System, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, a National Reserve, or a National Monument.

(3) The Board will not grant a land-use-exemption permit for a solid waste rail transfer facility proposed to be located on land within any unit of or land affiliated with lands referenced in The Highlands Conservation Act, Public Law 108-421, for which a State has implemented a conservation management plan, if operation of the facility would be inconsistent with restrictions placed on such land.

(4) The Board will reject an application from a person who is not a rail carrier, but is instead operating on behalf of a rail carrier unless:

(i) The applicant has sought permission from the applicable State, local, or municipal authority with respect to some or all of the property in the application and received an unsatisfactory result affecting the siting of the facility; or

(ii) The Governor of the State has petitioned the Board to require the facility to apply under 49 CFR part 1155 subpart B.

(5) The Board will issue a land-use-exemption permit to an applicant that has received an unsatisfactory result from a State, local or municipal authority affecting the siting of the facility only if it finds that the laws, regulations, or other requirements affect the siting of the facility, on their face or as applied, either:

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(i) Unreasonably burden the interstate transportation of solid waste by railroad; or

(ii) Discriminate against the railroad transportation of solid waste and a solid waste rail transfer facility.

(6) A land-use-exemption permit will not exempt a State requirement that a rail carrier comply with an environmental, public health, or public safety standard that falls under the traditional police powers of the State unless the requirement is unreasonably burdensome to interstate commerce or discriminates against rail carriers.

(7) A land-use-exemption permit will only exempt State, local, or municipal laws, regulations, orders, other requirements, or portions thereof, affecting the siting of the solid waste rail transfer facility.

(c) *Considerations.* As required by 49 U.S.C. 10909(d), the Board will consider and give due weight to the following, as applicable:

(1) The land-use, zoning, and siting regulations or solid waste planning requirements of the State or State subdivision in which the facility is or will be located that are applicable to solid waste transfer facilities, including those that are not owned or operated by or on behalf of a rail carrier;

(2) The land-use, zoning, and siting regulations or solid waste planning requirements applicable to the property where the solid waste rail transfer facility is proposed to be located;

(3) Regional transportation planning requirements developed pursuant to Federal and State law;

(4) Regional solid waste disposal plans developed pursuant to Federal or State law;

(5) Any Federal and State environmental protection laws or regulations applicable to the site;

(6) any unreasonable burdens imposed on the interstate transportation of solid waste by railroad, or the potential for discrimination against the railroad transportation of solid waste, a solid waste rail transfer facility, or a rail carrier that owns or operates such a facility; and

(7) Any other relevant factors, as determined by the Board.

(d) *Permits.* If the Board grants a land-use-exemption permit for a solid

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waste rail transfer facility, all State laws, regulations, orders, or other requirements affecting the siting of a facility are preempted with regard to that facility. Inasmuch as the Board has discretion to require compliance with State requirements affecting the siting of a facility pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10909(f), a Board-issued land-use-exemption permit will require compliance with such State laws, regulations, orders, or other requirements not otherwise expressly exempted in the permit unless the Board determines otherwise.

§ 1155.27 Petitions to modify, amend, or revoke a land-use-exemption permit.

General rule. Petitions to modify, amend, or revoke land-use-exemption permits shall be decided in accordance with the Board's normal standard of review for petitions to reopen administratively final Board actions at 49 CFR 1115.4. The petition must demonstrate material error, new evidence, or substantially changed circumstances that warrant the requested action, and is subject to these additional conditions:

(a) An entity that petitions for a modification or amendment requesting an expansion of Federal preemption or the facility's operations or physical size is subject to the notice and application requirements in this subpart C. The language of the notifications shall be modified to note that the petition is for a modification or amendment.

(b) The Board will approve or deny petitions to modify, amend, or revoke a land-use-exemption permit within 90 days after the full record for the petition is developed.

APPENDIX A TO PART 1155—FORM NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY

Docket No. FD _____ (Sub-No. _____)

Notice of Intent to apply for a land-use-exemption permit for a solid waste rail transfer facility.

(Name of Applicant) gives notice that on or about (insert date application will be filed with the Board) it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423, an application for a land-use-exemption permit for a solid waste rail transfer facility as defined in 49 U.S.C. 10908(e)(1)(H) and 49 CFR 1155.2. The solid waste rail transfer facility, owned by